

SHOWTRIAL 2

Written by

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Episode 1

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1

EXT. SUSSEX - DAY 1

1

CAPTION: SUNDAY, 6TH OCTOBER 2024.

High above a network of lanes and roads in the countryside just outside Brighton and Hove. In the distance the sea. A tiny cyclist weaving along one of these roads heading towards the coastal city.

Then the roof of a lone vehicle some way behind also comes into view.

Steadily gaining ground.

2

EXT. B ROAD, SUSSEX - DAY 1

2

The sound of deep breathing from physical exertion.

We are seeing through the helmet-mounted go-pro of MARCUS CALDERWOOD who is riding into Brighton. Nothing on the road ahead of him, hedgerow and field to the left.

But there is a vehicle close behind him and he is aware of it too in tiny glimpses as he turns his head.

The vehicle appears to be deliberately staying behind him in an intimidatory fashion. Then suddenly closing in.

Then the sudden roar of somebody hitting the gas very hard.

MARCUS

No! No no no...

Then the whole view spins and we just see sky and then ground and then sky again as head meets ground.

And we see a pedal fly off as the bike is struck and arc through the air.

JUMP CUT TO:

3

EXT. FIELD - DAY 1

3

Now we see from Marcus's POV the sky and clouds scudding overhead.

He is lying in a ditch in some water.

We can hear the odd noise of an oblivious car passing.

At one moment the sound of a dog barking. Marcus blinks but obviously cannot move.

In his mind Marcus returns in impressionistic images to the crash:

MARCUS

No! No no no.

A hand coming close to his helmet and go-pro. Rips it off.

A dark blurry figure in his sight that we cannot properly distinguish.

He opens his eyes. The afternoon sky is dimming, dusk is falling.

JUMP CUT TO:

4 EXT. FIELD - EVENING/NIGHT 1 4

The sound of a few cars going past the incident and it is obvious that nobody is going to see the critically injured man who lies down a verge in the shallow water of a roadside ditch.

And the bone of one leg is sticking shockingly white through his flesh.

Night falls. A pale moon over the countryside.

JUMP CUT TO:

5 EXT. FIELD - DAWN, DAY 2 5

CAPTION: MONDAY, 7TH OCTOBER 2024.

Still dark but the sky is lighting a little to the East as dawn approaches. Marcus is still lying in the watery ditch. And now we hear the sound of an early-morning tractor coming down the lane.

6 INT. TRACTOR CAB / EXT. B ROAD - DAWN, DAY 2 6

From his higher position, the driver seems at first as if he might not see Marcus. Agony for a second as we fear he might miss him but then the headlight picks out a red cycling jacket.

He slows and stops his vehicle.

JUMP CUT TO:

7 EXT. FIELD - DAY 2 7

Flashing blue lights of an ambulance and police car.

Tractor still by the side of the road and driver talking to police. One of them we will know later as PC NICK TAYLOR.

Meanwhile a pair of paramedics are down with Marcus. One is GRACE EZE.

GRACE
Stay with us, Marcus, the air
ambulance is coming.

MARCUS
Listen...I need to...

GRACE
Just stay calm.

MARCUS
(gasping for breath)
I know who did it. The driver.
(beat)
I know who it was.

Overhead the roar of the rotor blades from the arriving helicopter.

TITLES

*

8 EXT. DOCTOR NESBITT'S OFFICE - DAY 3 8
Establisher.

CAPTION: TUESDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2024

9 INT. DOCTOR NESBITT'S OFFICE - DAY 3 9

DR NESBITT (O.S.)
Goldfinches?

We pull up to show a private CBT counsellor and her patient SAM MALIK. Sam is 40 something, and in spite of his anxiety-related insomnia a hugely competent lawyer who keeps both his appearance and his professional life in order.

SAM
I put out Niger seeds. There was
practically a flock at one point!
But they've stopped coming.

DR NESBITT
And this has increased your anxiety
levels...(why?)

SAM
I know. But I can't help the
feeling that it's something I've
done.

DR NESBITT
I was reading that garden bird
numbers have been greatly reduced
by avian flu.

Sam perks up.

SAM
Ah you think it's that?

DR NESBITT
It seems more plausible than that
they held a mass meeting and agreed
to boycott Sam Malik's garden.

SAM
OK. Well.
(beat)
Reassuring to know they're probably
all just dead.

She smiles.

DR NESBITT
How is work, Sam?

SAM
Work is work you know. Cuts,
underfunding, court backlogs,
administrative chaos. All very well
me trying to put the scum back on
the streets but now the scum are
mainly on remand waiting five years
for a court date.

DR NESBITT
And what about sedative use?

SAM
So yeah I was going to discuss
that. I only use them in real
emergencies but I seem to have
mislaid the last strip you gave
me...

He looks at her. Can you believe it! She looks back at him...

JUMP CUT TO:

11 INT. SAM & CLAUDIA'S OFFICE, MAIN AREA - DAY 3 11

Sam's colleague CLAUDIA is at her desk looking at her phone as Sam stomps into his office, trailing performative ill-humour.

SAM
Know what I really hate?

She nods still looking down at her phone.

CLAUDIA
Bagpipes. Low winter sun. Two-factor verification codes...

SAM
ALSO doctors charging £150 an hour who suddenly decide to ration the meds.

CLAUDIA
Isn't part of their job...

He holds up a Stop! Hand.

SAM
Know what I really don't need right now, Claudia?

CLAUDIA
(mock-accepting)
The voice of reason.

He nods.

SAM
I did my bloody gratification exercises, I used the prompt-pay app, just give me the benzos.

Goes over to desk and computer. There is an eclectic mix of books including London Noir and a little figurine of Golda Meir. *

He clicks open a legal file to check something as her phone signals a breaking news alert.

CLAUDIA (O.S.)
Oh my God he's died!

He looks up as she stares at her phone.

SAM
Who has?

CLAUDIA
That climate guy from the hit-and-run. Marcus Calderwood.

SAM
I thought they said...

CLAUDIA
Died in surgery apparently.
Ruptured spleen.

She shakes her head.

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)
That's awful. I mean I didn't
always agree with their tactics
but...

Sam nods slowly.

SAM
Wow I wasn't expecting that.
(beat)
This is going to break the internet
for good.
(leaves computer)
Right no rest for the wicked, I'm
off to court...

CLAUDIA
Tenner says it will be cancelled.

He signals acceptance and exits.

CHANTING (O.S.)
*No flowers only rage! No flowers
only rage!*

12 EXT. LEILA'S FLAT - DAY 3 12
Establisher.

13 INT. LEILA'S FLAT, SITTING ROOM - DAY 3 13
On screen: we're in a square in the centre of town.
Protestors carrying placards reading J4M and STOP CLIMATE
GENOCIDE and OIL KILLS. On some of the placards are pictures
of MARCUS CALDERWOOD.

There are journalists present and we pull focus to one from
BBC local news.

LOCAL NEWS JOURNALIST
'No flowers only rage' is the cry
from climate change activists and
other protestors.
(MORE)

LOCAL NEWS JOURNALIST (CONT'D)

It was just outside Lewes nearly two days ago, that the acclaimed author and founder of Stop Climate Genocide was struck by a vehicle and fatally injured. In cities across the UK, there have been vigils and protests...

Pull back to show a woman in her 40s on her laptop going through her busy work diary while the news plays in the background. Her diary shows several conferences and appointments that are related to the CPS for whom she works. Including a Social Mobility and Disadvantage workshop.

Her partner Alex comes into the room. He glances at a gift that is wrapped beside her on the sofa.

ALEX

Aw that's nice of you, what am I celebrating?

LEILA

It's for Frida's 16th. I'm meeting Tamara for a drink later to give it to her.

He nods.

ALEX

Send her my absolute worst and don't lend the flakey tramp any money.

LEILA

(admiring)
Flakey tramp!
(shakes head)
OK.

Frowns back at her diary.

LEILA (CONT'D)

I could do without it to be honest; this week is a total nightmare.

He gives her a sympathetic pat on the top of her head.

LEILA (CONT'D)

Did you just pat me?

He laughs.

ALEX

So what I'd do? Not put so many meetings in my diary?

She gives him a you're-so-funny look.

ALEX (CONT'D) *
And now I'm off to collect a *
beautiful star magnolia for my *
favourite client. *

He bends down and kisses her and leaves. Over his shoulder... *

ALEX (CONT'D) *
Have fun tonight. *

She stares forlornly at an invitation to address *
disadvantaged schools. THINKING OF A CAREER IN THE CPS? *

LOCAL NEWS JOURNALIST *
The bicycle Mr Calderwood was
riding is missing from the scene
which is leading to the obvious
conclusion that this was a hit-and-
run and they are appealing for
dashcam footage from drivers in the
area. But after two days and still
no arrests, there is considerable
internet speculation over what
exactly happened to this prominent
activist...

14 OMITTED 14 *

15 EXT. OPEN AIR CAFE - DAY 3 15

A journalist Felix Owusu is with a pink-haired climate
activist called SARA.

FELIX
Is she sure?

SARA
Absolutely. She couldn't understand
why nothing was happening. In the
end she messaged us and I hooked up
with her at the hospital.

FELIX
What did she say?

SARA
That Marcus told her who did it
just before the air ambulance
arrived. And she immediately told a
police officer called Nick Taylor.

FELIX
How does she know his name?

SARA
He'd been dating one of the
paramedics.

FELIX
And Taylor said "leave it with me."

She nods.

SARA
So why have they made no arrests
when they've known the killer's
identity for 24 hours? We need to
go public with...

FELIX
Let me just see if I can find out
what's happening. There may be an
explanation they're not
revealing...

SARA
It's a cover up, Felix. We need to
move quickly.

FELIX
I'll call the Press Officer.

Reaches for his phone.

16 EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY 3 16

The Press Officer - a woman we will know as HELEN MCGUIRE
coming into the police station. Her phone rings. She pauses
to take it. *

HELEN
Felix? *

Listens. *

HELEN (CONT'D)
Wait. Go again. Who did Marcus say
this to? *

17 OMITTED 17 *

18 INT. POLICE STATION, CORRIDOR - DAY 3 18

Helen McGuire now walking fast down the corridor. *

JUMP CUT TO: *

19 INT. POLICE STATION, PRESS BRIEFING ROOM - DAY 3 19 *

Helen McGuire is in a room with CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT WHITLEY. *

WHITLEY *

And they are sure about this? *

HELEN *

Quite sure. *

He picks up his phone. *

WHITLEY *

Get PC Nicholas Taylor. *

20 INT. POLICE STATION, CORRIDOR - DAY 3 20

PC Taylor walking down the corridor. *

JUMP CUT TO: *

21 OMITTED 21 *

22 INT. POLICE STATION, MEETING ROOM - DAY 3 22 *

PC Nick Taylor is now in front of Whitley and another senior officer and Helen McGuire.

PC TAYLOR

I don't know what she's talking about.

WHITLEY

She says she told you that Marcus Calderwood directly named a police officer from this station as the driver that struck him. *

A moment as Taylor blinks. *

WHITLEY (CONT'D) *

Are you saying that she's lying?

PC TAYLOR

It was very noisy, Sir. There was so much going on. If she said it I certainly didn't understand it.

HELEN

Obviously he's Officer X for the press.

WHITLEY

I'm going to declare this a critical incident now;
(MORE)

WHITLEY (CONT'D)
we'll need a Gold group and
somebody from a neighbouring force
to run the investigative side.

*

To Taylor.

WHITLEY (CONT'D)
We'll also need your phone, PC
Taylor.

Taylor blinks.

PC TAYLOR
Am I suspended?

WHITLEY
No.
(beat)
Not yet.

PC Taylor hands it over and leaves.

An officer comes in.

*

WHITLEY (CONT'D)
Please tell me they bloody found
him.

*

JUMP CUT TO:

23 EXT. JUSTIN'S HOUSE - DAY 3

23

A garage door is flung open to reveal all the usual stuff you
might expect to find in a garage...

...except a car.

The area surrounding the house is cordoned off and there is
plenty of police activity.

Cops coming in and out with laptops and tablets and other
items of interest in evidence bags.

Police chatter on radios.

POLICE OFFICER (INTO RADIO)
Can confirm subject is not at the
property. Vehicle is also missing,
neighbour says it was driven away
yesterday morning.

And we see two uniforms talking to a neighbour. (She is Mrs
Rose Gibson and we will discover what she is telling them
later).

*

24 EXT. CPS - DAY 3 24

On screen: SUSSEX AND HAMPSHIRE CROWN PROSECUTION SERVICE

Leila arrives into work, on her phone and carrying a coffee.

LEILA
You've got to be kidding! Oh my
God.

She stops.

LEILA (CONT'D)
(incredulously)
And this was over 24 hours ago?

25 INT. CPS, OFFICE - DAY 3 25

Leila is now holding a coffee cupped in both hands with her
boss Adrian Gilligan.

LEILA
So this really does not look good
for the police.

ADRIAN
Something of an understatement.

LEILA
24 hours is a lot of time to cover
your tracks, dispose of evidence.

She shakes her head.

ADRIAN
Who is Officer X?

LEILA
His name is PC Justin Mitchell. And
he has disappeared.

ADRIAN
Raising the obvious possibility
that he was tipped off by PC
Taylor. Were they friends?

LEILA
No idea, but I'm sure they're
checking all of that out.
Potentially, we have three charging
decisions. PCs Mitchell and Taylor
plus a Ms Sandra Vodanovic.

ADRIAN
Who's she?

LEILA

Mitchell's partner. The neighbour apparently saw her driving the vehicle away from the property shortly after the discovery of the body.

ADRIAN

OK, she's obviously going to face the music for that.

*
*

LEILA

They're drafting in an SIO from Hampshire and the New Forest to oversee the investigation.

*

ADRIAN

Guess they'll need him for any interviews as well in the circumstances.

LEILA

Or her.

ADRIAN

Is it a her?

LEILA

No it's a him.

(grins at his reproachful look)

Chief Superintendent Whitley has declared a critical incident and set up a Gold group to which we're invited.

*
*
*
*

Checks her watch and rises.

*

LEILA (CONT'D)

Right. Press conference...

*
*

ADRIAN

But what about the Social Mobility and Disadvantage Working Group meeting?

*
*
*
*

He's kidding this is obviously far more important. She gives him a mock helpless gesture.

*
*

LEILA

Force majeure right?

*
*

ADRIAN
Keep me updated.

*
*

She exits.

*
*

JUMP CUT TO:

*

26

INT. POLICE STATION, PRESS BRIEFING ROOM - DAY 3

26

Radio and TV mikes bobbing in and out of vision, under the face of Chief Superintendent Whitley who is standing grim-faced BEHIND his press officer Helen McGuire.

Reporters immediately start to bellow questions. *Have you made any arrests?*

*

She holds up a hand.

HELEN
I shall read a statement and
because of the complex and fast-
moving nature...

Groans and mutters from the floor. She smiles.

HELEN (CONT'D)
...I KNOW, but it is and owing to
that fact we will not be taking any
questions today.
(beat)

We are aware of rumours circulating
online about the involvement of a
serving police officer in the hit-
and-run incident on Sunday that
tragically took the life of Marcus
Calderwood. We will be referring to
this officer as Officer X...

*
*
*

Felix Owusu hasn't got time to waste and stands up.

*

FELIX
Obviously I know the identity of
Officer X as do many within Stop
Climate Genocide.

HELEN
Which is why we are asking for your
cooperation in not naming them as
it could impact on the
investigation.

FELIX
It's just a matter of time. When
will you release the name?

WHITLEY

Thanks, Felix, I think you probably
heard Helen say "no questions"...

*

FELIX

Why should anybody trust anything
you tell us?

*

HELEN

(ignoring him)

I can confirm that this has been
designated a critical incident and
a Gold group has been established
including representatives of
community as well as hate-
monitoring groups...

*

*

*

*

*

*

*

*

FADE INTO:

*

26A EXT. SAM & CLAUDIA'S OFFICE - DAY 3

26A *

Sam enters the building.

*

26B INT. SAM & CLAUDIA'S OFFICE, MAIN AREA - DAY 3

26B *

CLAUDIA is now looking at a video clip on her mobile of the
protestors with the running strapline:

*

*

SUSPECT IN HIT-AND-RUN IS SERVING POLICE OFFICER

*

Sam comes in and tosses a tenner onto her desk.

*

SAM

This used to be a country.

*

*

CLAUDIA

How long's he been on remand now?

*

*

SAM

Lost count but it's definitely a
record poor guy.

*

*

*

Takes his seat

*

SAM (CONT'D)

See all the high-vis mob losing
their shit about the environmental
cost of cut flowers?

*

*

*

*

CLAUDIA

I mean they're quite right though.
Refrigeration, water, transport...

*

*

*

He glances at the cut tulips on her desk.

*

CLAUDIA (CONT'D)
They were a gift. Some guy came in asking for you.

SAM
Who?

CLAUDIA
I don't know he wouldn't give a name, wouldn't give any details, insisted he'd only speak to you.

SAM
Oh God I hate that; hopefully he'll get hit by a truck or something.

CLAUDIA
Yeah who needs clients?

She waggles a coffee cup at him, he nods and she exits. He opens his computer and types Find a Therapist into the search engine.

27 INT. POLICE STATION, STRATEGY ROOM - DAY 3 27

A bunch of people now grouped together. This is the Gold Group and includes HELEN MCGUIRE, CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT WHITLEY, LEILA and various other stakeholders and interested parties.

WHITLEY
Welcome, folks, this Gold group includes Leila Hassoun-Kenny from the CPS...

Indicates Leila who raises an acknowledging hand.

WHITLEY (CONT'D)
...representatives of our Media and Public Engagement Unit, community liaison officers to deal with any hate-related issues...

Nods to Helen and a few others.

WHITLEY (CONT'D)
And I'd like to introduce DI Miles Southgate from Hampshire and the New Forest who we've brought in given the sensitive nature of the case. He's the SIO.

DI MILES SOUTHGATE raises a hand of greeting.

DI SOUTHGATE
And DS Iain Packham also from my force...
(MORE)

DI SOUTHGATE (CONT'D)

(beat)

So here's where we are. Currently no mobile evidence putting PC Mitchell at the scene. No helpful dashcam has come forward either. The disappearance of the bike and the vehicle means we don't have meaningful forensics yet. We obviously do know the type of vehicle, its make, colour, year etcetera.

WHITLEY

Finding one or preferably both of those is our number one priority.

DI SOUTHGATE

There is one important update. We've found CCTV footage of PC Mitchell's Cayenne boarding a ferry at Portsmouth yesterday morning. DS Packham can show you...

*
*

Packham puts an image up on one of the screens in the room.

The image is footage of a 4 x 4. Zooms in to show scrape to the vehicle.

DS PACKHAM

Clear damage to left-hand side. The neighbour witnessed it driving away and also confirmed she had seen damage to the vehicle.

*

LEILA

(raising hand)

Is Sandra Vodanovic still driving the vehicle?

DI SOUTHGATE

Yes.

LEILA

So he could be concealed inside. As could all the evidence removed from the crash site.

DI SOUTHGATE

Yes our thoughts exactly.

LEILA

If there's sufficient evidence, ANYBODY assisting an offender will face charges.

*
*
*

DI SOUTHGATE

Of course. We're still checking PC Taylor's phone.

*

HELEN	WHITLEY
I would suggest naming PC Mitchell very (quickly).	Obviously the involvement of Owusu...

Both stop as it is obvious they are talking at the same time although he is fractionally behind so should defer.

WHITLEY (CONT'D)

Sorry, Helen, just to say that there will be an obvious anti-police bias among much of the media especially Felix Owusu. So we have to be really pro-active in ensuring that does not become the dominant narrative.

Helen settles back silenced as he explains her job. Leila glances at her sympathetically and they exchange a quick smile.

CUT TO: *

28	OMITTEDNOW 26A	28 *
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29	OMITTEDNOW 26B	29 *
----	----------------	------

30	EXT. ROMILLY HOUSE - DAY 3	30
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	SARA (V.O)	*
	This is SCGLive! We're at Romilly House which was the home of Marcus Calderwood. He left it to the movement and we are now going to use it as a centre for education and training of activists.	* * * * * * *

	Felix is watching Sara from the SCG recording their livestream to camera. It's quite busy around them; activists are putting up stuff like prints with Marcus's face and STOP CLIMATE GENOCIDE.	* * * *
--	---	------------------

	SARA (CONT'D)	*
	And now we give the authorities a deadline.	* * *
	(beat)	*
	Name OFFICER X by 5 PM or we will.	*

JUMP CUT TO: *

30A	EXT. ROMILLY HOUSE - DAY 3	30A *
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	Felix now walking with Sara.	*
--	------------------------------	---

FELIX
You see my piece about Marcus for
The Guardian?

SARA
(dismissive)
Fake allies.

FELIX
OK, well, it's called Indifference
Kills. He told me that was going to
be the title of his next book...

She nods. She's still really upset.

SARA
I can't believe he's dead. I just
can't believe it.

FELIX
He also told me his fears of a
split in the movement, Sara.

She nods.

SARA
Yeah there's a group who want to
move to more confrontational
tactics. Marcus was trying to hold
everything together...

FELIX
Mmm. That was the meeting he was on
his way to...

She glances at him. He's pondering something. Then they see a
vehicle stopped on the road ahead. It's a battered Land Rover
and the driver is a man called PATRICK NORRIS. Sara scowls
and tuts.

SARA
Just go away.

FELIX
Who's that?

SARA
The neighbour. Has an "organic"
vineyard. Banging on about the
signs and us not having probate
yet. Total arsehole apparently.

FELIX
Oh yeah I think Marcus mentioned
him.

SARA
But anyway the split's definitely
happening. Marcus's death only
accelerated that.

*
*
*
*

Felix watches as the Land Rover starts up and drives away.

*

31 OMITTED

31 *

32 OMITTED

32 *

33 OMITTED

33 *

34 INT. SAM'S & CLAUDIA'S OFFICE, SAM'S OFFICE - DAY 3

34

Sam is working at his desk.

CLAUDIA
No gentle truck to save you I'm
afraid. He's back.

SAM
Oh Gawd. What's his name?

CLAUDIA
Won't tell me. But polite and
wearing a nice perfume. Vetiver I
think.

SAM
Armed robbery?

CLAUDIA
More like Pyramid Schemes.

SAM
Good, he can explain them to me.
Send him through.

Claudia goes out.

CLAUDIA
Come through please...

A man appears at the door. JUSTIN MITCHELL.

JUSTIN
Thank you...I didn't catch...

CLAUDIA
Claudia.

JUSTIN
Thank you, Claudia.

Gives her a little wink and a barely-concealed appreciative up-and-down as she leaves which she clearly clocks and fractionally acknowledges with a good-humoured eyebrow.

Justin looks at Sam with a half-smile.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

You don't remember me do you?

SAM

I'm afraid not but if it's any consolation I am terrible with names and faces. Have we met before?

JUSTIN

Sort of.

SAM

Please take a seat.

Justin does.

SAM (CONT'D)

So...

JUSTIN

Couple of years back there was a drugs case. Some geezer, Tony O'Brien to be precise, went to Amsterdam, took possession of a ton of pills, mailed them to himself in Hastings, went to collect them, took them home and opened them up.

SAM

OK sounds like a tricky one for the defence.

JUSTIN

You'd think so wouldn't you? But can you believe he got off.

SAM

Juries eh?

JUSTIN

Juries yes. And a solicitor-advocate who was the most irritatingly persistent little twat you could possibly meet. That jury would have sent him down hundred percent without this fella.

He picks up the figurine of Golda Meir. Frowns at it. Who are you then?

SAM

I do an awful lot of such cases.
You'll excuse me if I don't recall
your particular role in this...

JUSTIN

I was the police officer who banged
my fist and mouthed "you absolute
cunt" at you.

SAM

Doesn't narrow it down too much.

JUSTIN

(grins)
Yeah I bet.

SAM

But if it's any consolation, Tony
O'Brien just got five years for a
very similar...(charge).

JUSTIN

I'm not here for consolation. That
day I thought: well if I ever need
a brief I'm going to Sam Malik.

SAM

(surprised)
You need a solicitor now?

Justin puts Golda down.

JUSTIN

Marcus Calderwood identified me
before he died as the driver in the
hit-and-run.
(beat)
I'm Officer X.

Sam stares at him.

35 EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY 3 35
Establisher.

36 INT. POLICE STATION, INTERVIEW ROOM - DAY 3 36
A photo on the table. It shows four guys at a work outing.
They are all holding up four fingers to the camera.

DI SOUTHGATE (O.S.)

This was among recently deleted
photos from your library, PC
Taylor. Can you identify the
people?

DI Southgate and DS Packham interviewing Taylor.

*

PC TAYLOR
That's me obviously. Juzzer...

DI SOUTHGATE
Justin Mitchell. Please use full names.

PC TAYLOR
Justin Mitchell. Kyle Jones sorry don't know his middle name.

This sarcasm earns him a sharp glance from Packham.

PC TAYLOR (CONT'D)
And Robert Hyndley.

*

DI SOUTHGATE
What do the four fingers mean?

PC TAYLOR
Dunno probably the number of goals Palace conceded or something.

DI SOUTHGATE
Is it a reference to Delta4?

*

PC TAYLOR
What's Delta4?

*

DS PACKHAM
We're from Hampshire not Hong Kong, Nick. There's officers from our force know officers from your force some who've even served in both.
(smiles)
Mindblowing I know.

*

DI SOUTHGATE
Did you wipe the Group Chat already?

PC TAYLOR
Did I what?

DI SOUTHGATE
He really thinks we were born yesterday. You will have had a panic code or a symbol to wipe incriminating conversations. What was it?

PC TAYLOR
I think I would like my Federation Rep now.

DI SOUTHGATE

Why were you trying to protect
Justin, PC Taylor?

PC TAYLOR

Who else is going to protect us?
The press picking holes in every
single thing we do? Saying we're
too woke, saying we're not woke
enough, saying we don't care about
ordinary crimes.

(growing anger)

Also: who cares if we're in
hospital after some kid has pulled
out a machete that we're not
allowed to search him for? Filmed
by a crew with stolen mobiles whose
drill-rap "culture" we need to show
more respect to? I mean seriously,
mate, who's got OUR backs?

(beat)

I didn't warn Justin, that's the
truth.

Southgate's phone beeps a text message. Exhales with relief,
fist clench and starts heading for the exit.

DI SOUTHGATE

Well let's see what Justin has to
say on the matter.

PC TAYLOR

(shocked and maybe a
little dismayed)

They've found him?

DI SOUTHGATE

Looks like he's seen sense and
handed himself in to a local
solicitor.

Exits. Packham looks at him.

DS PACKHAM

Word to the wise, Nick?

*

Taylor looks at him.

DS PACKHAM (CONT'D)

I don't disagree with some of what
you're saying there as it goes. But
don't ever call one of us 'mate' in
an interview it's Sir or Boss. Got
it?

*

PC TAYLOR

Yes...Boss.

DS PACKHAM
(leans in)
Fuck about, find out.

*

JUMP CUT TO:

37 OMITTED 37

38 INT. SAM & CLAUDIA'S OFFICE, SAM'S OFFICE - DAY 3 38

Sam is sitting at his desk alone as DI SOUTHGATE and two uniforms come in with Claudia.

No sign of Justin.

DI SOUTHGATE
Where is he?

SAM
Left.

DI SOUTHGATE
What? Then why...

SAM
He knows his onions obviously. Said that you would need to arrange an interview with another force.

DI SOUTHGATE
I'm the other force. Never met or worked with PC Mitchell.

SAM
Right well he said he'd rather not be waiting in a cell all night so he'll be at the station with me tomorrow morning at 9 am.

DI SOUTHGATE
Anything else?

SAM
He says he didn't do it.

DI SOUTHGATE
Why did Marcus Calderwood claim he did then?

SAM
I don't know. PC Mitchell doesn't know either or so he said to me.

DI SOUTHGATE
Are you going to represent him then?

Sam glances at Claudia. She makes a slo-mo negative head shake at him.

SAM

Will it be death by dangerous driving?

DI SOUTHGATE

That's not for me to say yet, we're awaiting some medical reports, and obviously it depends on the CPS.

SAM

Who's the CPS lawyer?

DI SOUTHGATE

Leila Hassoun-Kenny.

SAM

Ha!

They both look at him but he doesn't elaborate.

SAM (CONT'D)

PC Mitchell will contact me again tomorrow morning and I will meet him and bring him to the police station. Beyond that I can't say until I've had a bit more time with him.

Southgate nods and exits along with the other cops. Claudia looks at her partner. *

CLAUDIA

What's with the 'ha'! About Leila Hassoun-Kenny.

SAM

Sufficient evidence test will drop to the floor if it's a cop.

(beat)

Dad's a Saddam-era Iraqi exile - Communist Party aristocracy. Her mother is Dame Harriet Kenny - High Priestess of Relativism.

CLAUDIA

Sounds great. Very glam.

SAM

A great friend of kleptocrats, dictators, and terrorists as long as they hate the West enough.

CLAUDIA
Well putting the sins of the mother
to one side...I don't think we
should touch this.

SAM
Why?

CLAUDIA
A cop who's smashed his car into a
guy trying to save the planet?

SAM
Allegedly smashed his car. And he's
still entitled to a defence.

CLAUDIA
Good luck finding one.

Sam ponders this.

MANI (O.S.)
Dad you can't!

39 EXT. SAM'S HOUSE - NIGHT 3 39

Establisher.

40 INT. SAM'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 3 40

Sam is now back at home. There are a lot of books on his shelves and scattered DVDs by the TV cabinet. Mainly old noir classics. The house is slightly disordered but not a state: everything about Sam testifies to a battle to stay on top of his torments.

SAM
Why can't I?

MANI
I mean it's Marcus Calderwood.
Versus, like, a cop.

SAM
You think I'd be, like...
(mock-screws himself up
for the awful words)
...on the wrong side of history?

MANI
Yes basically.

SAM
I've seen the right side of history
and it's full of emoji-brained
idiots.

MANI

Let's not go there please.

Sam looks at him. OK.

SAM

So you don't think I should do it?

MANI

I don't.

SAM

Why though? Forget spurious sides of history and think fair trial.

Mani scrutinises his dad. Then carefully...

MANI

Because you won't be able to cope, dad.

SAM

I won't be able to cope.

MANI

You'll go on the internet and you'll get enraged. And fair play to you, you don't even have a proper side in the culture war because you look down on everybody.

SAM

I have a side. Shall I tell you my side...

MANI

No don't embarrass yourself.

SAM

Reason! Logic! Basic morality!

MANI

I warned you you'd sound stupid.

SAM

Oh so morality is stupid now.

MANI

Then when you've succeeded in winding yourself up, you'll sit arguing out loud with imaginary adversaries, and pickle in your own Cortisol.

(beat)

Also you're sure to lose because like anybody will listen to a cop these days.

SAM

That same cop chose me. That should count for something.

MANI

Honestly, dad, I think it might be too much.

He's genuinely anxious for his dad.

41 EXT. BAR - NIGHT 3

41

Establisher.

42 INT. BAR - NIGHT 3

42

TAMARA (O.S.)

Yo get off Tinder, bitch, and buy me a drink.

Leila jolts up in surprise and then relaxes as she sees it is her older half-sister who has just arrived. TAMARA BAUDIN-KENNY is white, sharing only one parent with her sibling. She's an old raver, still quite glamorous, necked a LOT of pills in her time and now re-lives her glory days on social media.

Tamara cackles and takes a seat. Beckons to the waiter taking drinks orders.

TAMARA (CONT'D)

Although it's way past time you lodged that loser Alex.

LEILA

He said to say hi.

TAMARA

I'm sure he said more than that. But whatever, relax and get off your mobile; school bell went ages ago.

LEILA

Work's full on at the moment. I've got a massive caseload.

TAMARA

You're a bloody workaholic.

LEILA

If you mean I have a high-pressure full-time job...

TAMARA

Don't you ever stop to think there are more important things in life than work?

LEILA

Most people don't only do it for a laugh.

TAMARA

OK, look, let's not start...

LEILA

I didn't.

Beat.

TAMARA

You spoken to mum?

LEILA

Not in the last few days.

TAMARA

She's going to Madrid if the knee holds up.

LEILA

Why?

TAMARA

Invited by the Minister for Equality to get some medal for services to discourse theory.

LEILA

She never told me that.

TAMARA

Try answering the phone. Anyway it's a real drag because she was meant to be looking after Nestor and Frida that weekend.

LEILA

Where are you going?

TAMARA

Barcelona. Need a bit of me time.

LEILA

You have other kinds of time?

TAMARA

Laugh my fucking arse off. So I was going to ask...

Leila knows immediately. Uh-oh.

LEILA
I don't know, Tam...

TAMARA
It's only a couple of days. You
love the kids. Well Frida anyway.
Nobody loves Nestor but he was
never this bad before the weed.
(beat)
Please, babe, it's really important
to me; it's Mattie Service-
Station's 50th and everybody's
going.

Leila looks at her sister.

LEILA
I'll have to check the dates.

TAMARA
(brightening)
You're a superhero.
(as a reward)
So how IS work?

Leila nods slowly.

LEILA
Well I'm on the Marcus Calderwood
case.

TAMARA
Who?

Leila frowns. *Who's Marcus Calderwood?*

LEILA
The climate change guy? The one in
the hit-and-run.

TAMARA
Never heard of him.

LEILA
He wrote 'Tipping Point' and 'Tears
in the Rain'?

TAMARA
(nods dismissively)
Student shit.

LEILA
Well it's a bit more than that
actually...

Tamara no longer paying attention though, holds up a stop-a-
sec hand as waiter comes over.

TAMARA

Gin martini. Make sure the glass is properly frozen as well or it's going straight back.

Waiter looks at her.

TAMARA (CONT'D)

Don't give me that look if you're charging me over a tenner for it. And if you gob in it now I'll know and my sister here's a top lawyer and she'll shut this place down faster than a new COVID variant.

Leila smiles apologetically at him.

LEILA

Only half-sister thankfully.

At this moment Tamara gives her a very sharp look. Leila misses it though.

LEILA (CONT'D)

Same again, the Albariño thanks.

The waiter smiles sweetly at her, scowls at Tamara who is still looking at Leila, and retreats. Leila takes the gift she wrapped earlier from her bag.

LEILA (CONT'D)

This is for Frida's birthday.

Tamara takes it and shakes it.

TAMARA

What is it?

LEILA

A t-shirt.

TAMARA

(frowns)

Did you keep the receipt?

Leila's phone rings. She checks it. DI SOUTHGATE.

LEILA

I have to take this. Sorry, Miles, reception's lousy in here, wait and I'll pop outside...

She exits talking.

LEILA (CONT'D)

He did? Oh that's great news. Are you going to release his name now...

Leaving Tamara staring at the gift in her hands.

43 INT. SAM'S HOUSE, BEDROOM - NIGHT 3 43 *

Sam asleep but his eyes suddenly open. He turns an alarm clock on the bedside table round to look at the time.

SAM

Knock knock three o'clock.

Turns on the light. The bedside table is a shrine to medical issues some of them neurological. There are lots of pills from Strepisils to Xanax as well as a digital thermometer, a home blood-pressure monitor and a pulse oximeter.

He gives up trying to get back to sleep and starts to snoop around social media accounts specifically his colleague Claudia's page. She's been in Rome recently with her handsome boyfriend, in a cocktail bar drinking negronis with her girlfriends, and is running a half marathon for breast cancer. She's just been to see and thoroughly enjoyed a photography exhibition on Visibility and (Mis)Representation - modes of work in contemporary women's photography. Claudia is (apparently) everything he longs for: pretty; emotionally sorted; contentedly based.

He sponsors her £50 for her run and clicks the anonymous box.

He reaches for a strip of Xanax. There are only four in it. He cuts one in two. Puts half under his tongue. Waits a few seconds, then pops the other half in as well. Lies back and waits for oblivion as he stares at thumbnails of his colleague.

Closes eyes.

44 EXT. ESTABLISHER - DAY 4 44

New day as the sun rises over the south coast.

CAPTION: WEDNESDAY, 9TH OCTOBER 2024.

45 OMITTED 45

45A INT. POLICE STATION, INCIDENT ROOM - DAY 4 45A

DI Southgate working as DS Packham comes in and takes a seat next to him. *

DS PACKHAM *

So we're looking at all the points of contact between Justin and Marcus.

DI SOUTHGATE

Great.

DS PACKHAM

Justin really did not like SCG. And he made that quite obvious.

DI SOUTHGATE

Why?

(beat)

I mean over and above...(the reasons a lot of people hate them)...

DS PACKHAM

So people aren't exactly being chatty but it does seem that there was a fatal road incident Justin attended. And he blamed it all on SCG for disrupting the traffic.

DI SOUTHGATE

And how did that extend to Calderwood personally?

DS PACKHAM

It didn't at first. His first interaction with SCG was at another protest where he was accused of being heavy-handed in his restraint during an arrest.

DI SOUTHGATE

Any consequences?

DS PACKHAM

Nothing. Then the very first meeting between them was after Justin attended a neighbour dispute at Marcus's property.

DI SOUTHGATE

What happened there? Between Justin and Marcus I mean.

DS PACKHAM

Marcus made a complaint afterwards that Justin was hostile towards him and referenced SCG in a way that was both negative and irrelevant to the issue.

DI SOUTHGATE

Do we have any bodycam?

DS PACKHAM

Guess what?

DI SOUTHGATE
Switched off.

Packham nods.

DS PACKHAM
Here's the really strange one
though. Marcus complained about
Justin on at least one further
occasion.

*

DI SOUTHGATE
For what?

DS PACKHAM
Stopped him on his bike
unreasonably. He supplied footage
from his head-cam.

*

DI SOUTHGATE
What happened with that complaint?

DS PACKHAM
Nothing again as far as I can see.

*

Southgate sighs.

DI SOUTHGATE
Papers will have fun with this.
(beat)
Where's the footage?

DS PACKHAM
Yes I'm trying to dig out the full
file but guess what?

*

Southgate frowns.

DI SOUTHGATE
Trouble locating it?

Packham nods.

DI SOUTHGATE (CONT'D)
Keep looking.

46 EXT. STREET - DAY 4

46 *

Felix is with Sara.

FELIX
They've got him.

SARA
How do you know?

He smiles. Need-to-know.

FELIX

A lawyer is bringing him to the station this morning.

SARA

Then we'd better make sure there's a welcome party.

47 EXT. GREASY SPOON - DAY 4

47

Justin emerges from cafe and heads over to a parked up car which is being driven by Sam and hops in.

48 INT. CAR / EXT. GREASY SPOON - DAY 4

48

Justin scrutinises Sam as he fastens his seat belt.

JUSTIN

Blimey, don't take this the wrong way but you look like shit, mate.

SAM

I'm OK. I just didn't sleep so well.

JUSTIN

Wanna coffee?

Sam shakes his head.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

Sleep's important. You gotta sleep.

SAM

So they say all the time everywhere.

JUSTIN

Diabetes. Heart Disease. Kidneys. You name it poor sleep will make it worse.

SAM

I know it keeps me awake at night.

JUSTIN

I'm one of those people head hits the pillow and boom! I'm out for the next eight hours. Even when I've got shit on my mind.

SAM

I'd say 'lucky you' although given the shit that's probably on your mind right now...

JUSTIN

No I slept fine. I'm not guilty and we'll show that.

SAM

As I wasn't able to sleep on it, I gave your case some thought.

(beat)

Lot of people saying I shouldn't take it on.

JUSTIN

Why not?

Sam wafts a hand. Lots of reasons.

SAM

I've been considering retirement.

JUSTIN

What! You're not nearly old enough.

SAM

Early retirement. Health grounds.

JUSTIN

Bit of insomnia?

SAM

That's linked to other things.

JUSTIN

And do what?

SAM

Oh you know. See some contemporary art. Enjoy a negroni in Trastevere. Half-marathon for charity.

JUSTIN

What's stopping you doing all of that anyway? Nah, believe me, Sam, work is probably the thing keeping you in a straight line. Like a bike you know? Stop and you come crashing down.

SAM

OK, maybe steer clear of bike metaphors. You ready?

JUSTIN

Let's roll.

Sam starts the car.

48A EXT. ROADSIDE - DAY 4

48A

We're back at the accident scene. Three POLSA officers are still searching the area quietly and methodically, especially in the ditch where Marcus was found. It's an unpleasant task - they're having to work in water and mud. *

But then an obvious breakthrough.

We see something extracted from deep in the mud - a few feet away from the crash site. *

An urgent signal given to the rest of the team that a discovery has been made...

49 INT. POLICE STATION, INCIDENT ROOM - DAY 4

49 *

Leila is with Southgate who is just getting off the phone.

DI SOUTHGATE

POLSA have found a bike pedal half-submerged in the ditch.

LEILA

Ah that's great! Much too early for any..(forensics).

DI SOUTHGATE

Yes the testing will take a little while. We have a record of the colour, make and year of Justin's vehicle which we'll test against.

LEILA

Still excellent news: who's the defence solicitor?

DI SOUTHGATE

Sam Malik?

Leila laughs.

LEILA

Ha!

DI SOUTHGATE

You've dealt with him then.

LEILA

Oh yeah.

(beat)

Coulda been a contender but got stuck in the middle lane sneering at the faster cars.

DI SOUTHGATE
Still has a reputation for winning
lost causes apparently.

LEILA
Yes he found a minor disclosure
issue and shafted us on a really
terrible rape case.

DI SOUTHGATE
I suppose it's his job.

LEILA
Even with what we have already I
think there'll be enough for a
charge.

Southgate cracks his finger joints anxiously.

DI SOUTHGATE
I'd like some forensics. That's the
gamechanger.

50 INT. CAR/EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY 4

50

Sam and Justin have pulled up and can see a large crowd of
protestors many wearing STOP CLIMATE GENOCIDE t-shirts in the
front of the station.

J4M and Stop Climate Genocide placards. The cause is
expanding, it isn't just youngsters either, some elderly
people in Berghaus fleeces, orthofit sneakers, and rucksacks
sit down defiantly in the road chanting JUSTICE FOR MARCUS
and STOP CLIMATE GENOCIDE.

A ghost bike is placed in front of the entrance with a
picture of Marcus and the word MURDERED BY THE STATE.

PROTESTORS
Killer cops! Killer cops!

One of them now has a placard reading OFFICER X = PC JUSTIN
MITCHELL!

SAM
Somebody's going to need to explain
prejudice to these guys...
(looks around)
We can see about going round the
back...

Justin laughs.

JUSTIN
Like I'm scared of this bunch of
Pony Club wankers.

And he gets out. Sam follows him to howls of rage and derision as they approach.

Shouts of 'That's him!' And 'Killer Cop!'

JUMP CUT TO:

51 EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY 4 51

Chaos as Sam and Justin try to run the gauntlet of protestors.

They try and barge their way through.

Meanwhile two or three protestors starts heading to the side of the building with paint spray. *

A couple of cops try to intercept them and one protestor turns the spray on the glass frontage before swinging round to spray the cops. *

He is immediately pushed to the ground and restrained as people surround the arresting team many with phones recording it all. Small scuffles break out, and there's a bit of wider pushing and shoving, but it's not total chaos. *

More cops emerge and with this distraction, Sam and Justin manage to squeeze through into the station.

Protestors gets hauled off. Other arrests now taking place.

52 INT. POLICE STATION, FRONT DESK - DAY 4 52

Sam and Justin are waiting at the desk as DI Southgate and Leila emerge. Justin smiles at the Custody Sergeant, Lennie, who stands near Southgate. *

JUSTIN
Morning, Lennie.

CUSTODY SERGEANT
Justin.

JUSTIN
Getting a bit tasty out there.

It is definitely getting tastier we can see this through the glass doors. Justin smiles calmly at Southgate.

DI SOUTHGATE
Hi, Justin, thanks for dropping by,
I'm DI Southgate from Hampshire and
the New Forest.

JUSTIN
(to custody sergeant)
Call the Hug Academy, Lennie, one
of their Cuddle Bears has escaped.

Lennie looks down to hide a grin.

DI SOUTHGATE
(mildly)
We'll just have to see how soft I
am I suppose.
(beat)
Justin Mitchell, I am arresting you
on suspicion of causing death by
dangerous driving...

Southgate draws Justin to one side to continue with the
caution. Sam spots Leila emerging. Grins cheerfully and heads
towards her.

SAM
How's tricks, Leila?

LEILA
Yeah good thanks. You sure this is
your fight? I wouldn't go near it
with a barge pole.

SAM
You're the third person to tell me
that.

LEILA
Well I think even somebody of
your... talents... will struggle
with this one.

SAM
My talents.

LEILA
For muddying the water.

SAM
It's my job to muddy the water.

LEILA
And I'm sure a few violent sex-
offenders are very grateful to you.

SAM
Bad news for the Woke Lawyers
Society there's still this thing
called due process.

LEILA
Nobody uses "woke" any more, Sam,
it's a very low-status insult.

SAM

Get that from Teen Vogue did you?

She laughs at this.

LEILA

Get that from your mates in the
manosphere did you?

This little duel is interrupted as Felix comes angrily in through the front doors with Sara and a couple of other more elderly protestors on a wave of indignation.

FELIX

I demand to see the Chief
Superintendent. There was clear
evidence of excessive force out
there.

Sam to Leila.

SAM

Isn't that...

LEILA

Felix Owusu yeah.

SAM

(loudly)

Clear evidence of criminal damage
too we're lucky the CPS was here to
witness it all.

Felix shoots him a dirty look.

More protestors start to crowd in to the entrance now and the custody sergeant indicates that he needs some support in the front office.

SAM (CONT'D)

(to Sara)

Do you really think this is
helping?

SARA

There's a murderer in here. One of
their own.

SAM

There's a suspect in here. And you
don't know all the facts.

SARA

We don't want facts we want
justice.

SAM

Sadly, it's quite hard to have one without the other.

She gives this wishy-washy empiricism the contempt it deserves. Sam shrugs and turns back to Leila.

SAM (CONT'D)

'We don't want facts.'

LEILA

They're upset and angry, Sam. And they have every right to be.

She heads out of the front and Sam heads in to see Justin.

53

INT. POLICE STATION, SOLICITOR'S ROOM - DAY 4

53

Sam is with Justin.

JUSTIN

Operation Wrath of God.

SAM

What?

JUSTIN

On your desk. The little doll thingy, I knew I knew who it was.

SAM

Golda Meir.

JUSTIN

Yeah. Operation Wrath of God. I saw that film 'Munich' with whatsisname from The Hulk in it.

SAM

Eric Bana.

JUSTIN

You like films?

SAM

I do.

JUSTIN

Munich was decent. I like Spielberg. Although Crystal Skull was a shocker.

SAM

The aliens at the end were a mistake.

Justin: tell me about it!

JUSTIN
(curiously)
So how come you've got her sitting
on your desk? Given you know...

SAM
Given what?

JUSTIN
Didn't think it would quite fit the
Malik Ancestry report.

SAM
(briskly)
It was a gift.

JUSTIN
Who gave you that then?

Sam's not going there.

SAM
OK, let's start with some facts,
unfashionable as they are. Where
were you at the time of the
incident?

JUSTIN
On a run.

SAM
Did you have your phone with you?

JUSTIN
No I left it at home that day.

SAM
Why?

JUSTIN
I was in a hurry. And sometimes I
just switch it off anyway.
(beat)
Keep the noise out you know?

SAM
Marcus Calderwood named you in a
dying declaration.

JUSTIN
Right.

SAM
Did you know him?

JUSTIN
I knew of him obviously.

*
*
*
*
*
*

SAM

But did you meet? How did he know of you?

JUSTIN

I attended his property once because of some issue with his neighbour.

Sam makes a note of that.

SAM

What kind of issue?

JUSTIN

Don't really recall, access road, noise nuisance. Anyway, we exchanged words.

SAM

About what?

Justin looks at him.

JUSTIN

Well I'm not the number one fan of Stop Climate Genocide.

SAM

Anything else?

JUSTIN

He said I'd stopped him unreasonably on his bike.

SAM

And?

JUSTIN

He was using his phone and I told him not to.

SAM

Why did you have such an animosity towards him? If there's a reason, I need to know it because they certainly will.

We already know this is true. Sam looks at him. Justin sighs.

JUSTIN

There was this thing. I attended a crash. Car t-boned, went under a lorry.

SAM

And?

Close on Justin's face and almost traveling through his eyes...

54

EXT. MOTORWAY - FLASHBACK

54

Crash scene.

A woman in a car trapped by crushed metal. The back door is wrenched open and PC Justin Mitchell, in uniform, climbs in, slowly making his way through the car.

JUSTIN

I'm Justin. What's your name, love?

DANIELLA

Daniella. I feel really strange, Justin.

He pushes the front passenger seat down so he can get closer to her.

JUSTIN

We're going to get you out of here in a bit.

DANIELLA

I'm pregnant.

JUSTIN

Oh nice how many weeks?

DANIELLA

Nearly half way. Is my baby all right?

*

JUSTIN

'Course it is. You after a girl or a boy?

DANIELLA

Little girl.

JUSTIN

Got any names in mind?

DANIELLA

Pearl.

JUSTIN

That's a lovely name.

DANIELLA

(murmurs)

Pretty as a pearl my husband says. I'm so cold. I'm scared. Oh, please help me, I feel so strange.

Justin shifts slightly to get a better look at Daniella, and in doing so notices a piece of metal sticking in to her lower abdomen. She can't see it.

JUSTIN

OK, just relax, Daniella, I'm not going anywhere. I'll stay with you until we get you out of here and in a nice warm ambulance. You and little Pearl in there are gonna be just fine.

55

INT. POLICE STATION, SOLICITOR'S ROOM - DAY 4

55

Sam and Justin.

JUSTIN

But she wasn't. Daniella died in front of me. And there was no little Pearl.

SAM

And what did this have to do with...(Marcus Calderwood)

JUSTIN

Daniella shouldn't have been on that road. She was a very nervous driver and she messed up her exit and then...

(beat)

But she was only on that road because of them. They'd closed the M23.

SAM

And you discussed that with him.

JUSTIN

I mean yes. And, you know, with hindsight, I acknowledge that I might have given him the impression that I held him and his group in a less than favourable light.

SAM

So how come he identified you, Justin?

JUSTIN

I do not know. That's the truth. I can only assume his mind was messed up and he associated the uniforms with me.

*
*
*

SAM

Your anger over the traffic accident gives them a motive of course.

JUSTIN

Along with about 99% of the population who hate it when they pull that shit.

SAM

The accident sounds bad. You ever get any support?

JUSTIN

What kind of support?

SAM

Emotional support. PTSD...

JUSTIN

I haven't got PTSD.

SAM

How do you know that?

JUSTIN

Same way I know I haven't got skin cancer.

Looks harder at Sam.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

Bit early to be looking for mitigation, I didn't do it.

SAM

OK.

JUSTIN

Every cry-baby's got mental health problems these days anyway. What's actually wrong with being cheerful?

SAM

Nothing.

JUSTIN

You'd think it was against the law or something. Now every pop star's banging on about their anxiety on Instagram. Me me me. I I I. Forget a history month; the nutjobs get a whole year.

Sam laughs at this.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

You should fight it not wear it
like a badge of honour.

SAM

Strangely I think you may have a
point.

(beat)

About fighting it anyway.

JUSTIN

See I knew we'd get along. Anyway,
yes I was cut up about Daniella
Fielding which is kind of legit
after a pregnant woman dies right
in front of you.

(shakes head)

But I'm as sane as you are, Sam.

SAM

OK that's reassuring.

(beat)

We haven't discussed a "no
comment"?

JUSTIN

I'll answer questions.

(grins)

But don't worry I won't be chit-
chatting about Steven Spielberg or
Mental Health.

SAM

Probably for the best.

JUSTIN

Don't you worry, I've been in
enough interviews to know what
really boils their piss.

Sam looks at him curiously.

SAM

Are you enjoying this?

Justin looks steadily back at him.

JUSTIN

Nice to see things from the other
side for a change.

57 INT. POLICE STATION, STRATEGY ROOM - NIGHT 4 57 *

Leila comes into the strategy room to see Helen there on a laptop.

LEILA
Hey.

HELEN
Come and look at this.

Leila heads over and looks at the screen. It's a blog headed INDIFFERENCE KILLS.

PC JUSTIN MITCHELL: DID A POLICE VENDETTA BECOME MURDER?

LEILA
Who's behind this blog?

HELEN
It's anonymous and almost certainly encrypted, VPNs etcetera.
(beat)
Tribute in one of the broadsheets says Marcus was going to call his new book 'Indifference Kills'.

*
*
*
*
*

LEILA
Decent title.
(looks at it)
What are they saying about the vendetta?

*
*

HELEN
That Marcus had made complaints about Mitchell that were ignored.
(shrugs)
They're obviously getting their information from somewhere.

LEILA
Fuck sake. I'll talk to Southgate about it.

HELEN
They went in with Justin about half an hour ago. They could still be hours.

Leila checks her watch.

LEILA
OK, yeah, we can speak in the morning. Night, Helen.

HELEN
Night, Leila.

Leila leaves. Helen looks at the words on the screen.

INDIFFERENCE KILLS

58 INT. POLICE STATION, INTERVIEW ROOM - NIGHT 4 58 *

DI Southgate and DS Packham facing Sam and Justin. *

DI SOUTHGATE
So where's your car, Justin?

JUSTIN
Sandy's got it.

DI SOUTHGATE
Sandy being your partner, a Miss
Sandra Vodanovic?

JUSTIN
That's right.

DI SOUTHGATE
And where is Sandy?

JUSTIN
I don't know exactly.

DI SOUTHGATE
Do you know why she took the car?

JUSTIN
Yes.

They wait.

DI SOUTHGATE
(slightly impatient)
Why?

JUSTIN
See a man about a dog.

They look at him.

DI SOUTHGATE
Where?

JUSTIN
About 40 kilometers outside Novi
Sad.

Cops. Sorry where?

SAM
Novi Sad that's in...Serbia.
(to Justin)
Is that right?

JUSTIN

Yes that's right, Sam. Right on the Danube, provincial capital of Vojvodina. Took a bit of a pounding from NATO when the Serbs went into Kosovo.

Sam nods. Got it.

DI SOUTHGATE

She drove your car to Serbia.

JUSTIN

Yes.

DI SOUTHGATE

Why?

JUSTIN

(repeating tone of first time)

See a man about a dog.

Southgate eyes narrow with irritation.

DI SOUTHGATE

I'm asking why she drove to Serbia.

JUSTIN

She wants a dog.

DI SOUTHGATE

Why did she choose Serbia?

JUSTIN

That's where the dog she wanted was.

DI Southgate taps his fingers impatiently. DS Packham takes over. *

DS PACKHAM *

Why was it special? Why did she drive?

JUSTIN

It was a mixture of Bichon and Havanese. She had met the dog's mother and liked her character. She drove because only a few airlines allow dogs in the cabin and she thought it would be cruel to put it in the hold. Plus with the additional drive in-country it made sense time-wise.

(MORE)

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

As far as price goes it comes out pretty equal but of course in the car you're more in control of your own schedule. And Sandy enjoys driving.

DS PACKHAM

*

And it had nothing to do with removing evidence from a vehicle that had just been in a collision?

JUSTIN

Oh no, it did.

Even Sam stares at him here. Southgate rejoins the fray.

DI SOUTHGATE

Sorry? She was seeing a man about a dog. And removing evidence from a vehicle that had just been in a collision.

JUSTIN

Yes.

DI SOUTHGATE

(wearily)

Please elaborate, Justin.

JUSTIN

Sure. The dog is called Francisco but she's decided it will be Pancho for short.

DI SOUTHGATE

On the car.

JUSTIN

I was getting to that.

DS PACKHAM

*

Get to it then.

SAM

Please don't badger my client.

JUSTIN

Sandy clipped the car in the gym when she was pulling out on Saturday.

DI SOUTHGATE

Clipped it.

JUSTIN

Yes. And she has an uncle who runs a car repair place in Slovenia so she'll probably get it fixed there on the way.

Beat.

DI SOUTHGATE

(slowly)

You want us to believe. That your partner took the car and drove all the way to Serbia to get a special dog.

Justin smile-nods assent calmly.

JUSTIN

Havanese Bichon. The dad is Havanese and the mum's Bichon.

(frowns)

I think. Could be the other...(way round).

DS PACKHAM

(heavy sarcasm)

And she decided she'd kill two birds with one stone and get the damage from a recent collision at the gym fixed by a kindly Slovenian uncle.

*

JUSTIN

I never said he was kindly.

SAM

Yes try and avoid sarcasm, chaps, it will only confuse matters.

JUSTIN

Ivo's not all that kindly as it goes, but he's a good mechanic and it's mates rates so yeah.

A moment. The cops know they're losing this one.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

Any chance of a cuppa?

DI SOUTHGATE

Sure, Justin. And then you can explain to me why Marcus Calderwood stated it was your car that sent him flying off his bike.

JUSTIN

Sorry but I can't explain that.

DS PACKHAM

*

No I bet. You'll need much more
than a cock-and-bull story about a
special dog and a Serbian car
mechanic.

JUSTIN

Slovenian.

Packham looks at him.

SAM

(helpfully)

Dog: Serbian. Uncle: Slovenian.

JUSTIN

At a guess I'd say Sandy's probably
somewhere near Maribor right now if
that helps.

DI SOUTHGATE

Interview terminated at 8.20pm. We
will renew in the morning.

*

He gives Justin a look of deep contempt and exits followed by
DS Packham. Sam looks at Justin who smiles equably.

*

JUSTIN

Strange but true.

Sam starts to collect up his stuff.

SAM

I'll see you in the morning.

JUSTIN

Yeah sleep well.

Sam gives him a wry look and exits.

59 EXT. LEILA'S FLAT - NIGHT 4

59 *

Leila opens the door to a take away delivery driver.

60 INT. LEILA'S FLAT, KITCHEN - NIGHT 4

60 *

Leila and Alex eating a Deliveroo type meal of chicken satay
boxes and drinking Sprites.

*

ALEX

I got us tickets for a gig that
weekend remember.

LEILA

The migrant benefit in Eastbourne?

He nods.

ALEX
It's Rubén's band. They could do
with all the help they can get.

LEILA
(sighs)
You know what she's like.

ALEX
Yeah. A user.

LEILA
But also lonely and fucked up.
(beat)
I was luckier when it came to dads:
never trust a French Marxist
philosopher.

He laughs.

ALEX
I only really trust the French on
bread.

LEILA
They're strong on that especially
when it comes to sandwiches.

ALEX
Did you ask her about the money?

LEILA
Nope.

ALEX
How come she can go to Barcelona
but can never afford to repay the
five grand she owes you?

LEILA
Because that's just Tamara.

ALEX
I dunno, is that a good reason?
It's always seemed a pretty bad
reason to me.

LEILA
Maybe but she's not going to
change.

ALEX
Definitely not while everyone
always goes: 'oh that's just
Tamara'.

Leila contemplates this then starts typing a text.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Who you texting?

LEILA
My favourite half-sister.

ALEX
Saying what?

LEILA
Saying I can't do it. You're right.

ALEX
What's the excuse?

LEILA
No excuse. I don't need one. If you ask somebody for a favour you have to allow them to say no.

ALEX
Oh and you think Tamara will see it that way?

She puts mobile down.

LEILA
I don't care. Let's go to the gig.
(smiles ironically)
We're all entitled to 'me' time.

61 INT. POLICE STATION, CELL - NIGHT 4

61

Justin in a cell as a police officer undoes door and comes in. PC BECKY HOLLIS. He grins as he sees her.

*
*

BECKY
How's it going, Justin?

*
*

JUSTIN
Yeah can't complain.

*
*

They both laugh.

*

BECKY
Dawn's on in the morning. Says she'll bring you in a proper breakfast from Mario's.

*
*
*
*

JUSTIN
Tell Dawn she's a star and I will have the special breakfast roll and a double espresso with just a bit of hot milk in it.

*
*
*
*
*

BECKY
Flat white.

JUSTIN
Not a flat white, Rebecca, 'cos
there's nothing flat about theirs
and they literally put a pint of
milk in.

BECKY
(mocking)
And would you like us to trim the
fat off the bacon, my little
Prince?

JUSTIN
You can trim the fat off my bacon
any time, Bex.
(grins)
Go on, ask me about the egg!

BECKY
No because you'll just make some
rubbish joke about 'over easy like
your women'.

JUSTIN
(mock eyes widening)
How did you....you're a mind-
reader!

They both laugh. This is a much softer and more equal play
than we will see later with other officers.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)
What's happening with Nicky Taylor?

BECKY
Denying he heard anything. But they
took his phone.

JUSTIN
'Course they did.
(beat)
Everybody saw the Mermaid?

She nods.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)
Good 'cos they'll be all over the
group chats.
(beat)
He never said anything to me you
know?

She nods slowly.

BECKY

I know.

But there is something in her tone that suggests she might know a bit more too.

BECKY (CONT'D)

Now don't make a nuisance of yourself or we'll have to do some police brutality.

JUSTIN

I'll try.

She gives him a little wave and exits. He settles back and closes his eyes. But we will never know what he is thinking about.

62 INT./EXT - DAY 5 62

New day establisher.

63 OMITTED MOVED TO SC 48A 63

64 EXT. POLICE STATION, CAR PARK - DAY 5 64

A smart Alfa Romeo type sports car arriving. DI Southgate gets out and sees Leila arriving at the same time. Waves to her and she waits for him.

As he walks over, we see a few officers among whom is PC Jones watching them and laughing.

JUMP CUT TO:

65 EXT. POLICE STATION, CAR PARK - DAY 5 65

Southgate and Leila walking towards station. She's got a coffee in her hands.

LEILA

(incredulous)

She went to Serbia to get a dog! Oh no sure you did, Sandra.

(laughs incredulously at this)

She's a Serbian national right?

DI SOUTHGATE

Yes but she travelled on an EU passport.

LEILA

Serbia isn't in the EU yet.

DI SOUTHGATE
No but her mother is Slovenian and they are.

LEILA
Thanks, Brexit.

DI SOUTHGATE
In this case it won't make too much difference because Slovenia has national laws preventing the extradition of its own citizens.

LEILA
(grins)
We can still blame Brexit though right?

They walk into station.

JUMP CUT TO:

65A INT. POLICE STATION, FRONT RECEPTION - DAY 5 65A

DI Southgate and Leila pausing before going through.

DI SOUTHGATE
Justin was just taking the mickey basically. Monosyllables, repetition, and smartarse non-sequiturs.

LEILA
Attention-seeker.
(beat)
If you weren't involved in a crime of this sort wouldn't you take it more seriously?

DI SOUTHGATE
Lawyer's a real pain as well.

LEILA
(nods)
His first wife killed herself. Jumped in front of a train.

DI SOUTHGATE
Oh that's never good. Terrible for the train driver.

LEILA
Worse for the jumper.
(beat)
Sure it's preferable to being married to Sam Malik though.

*
*
*
*

He looks at her. Mean! She cackles and slaps her own wrist. *

LEILA (CONT'D) *
OK too far. *

DS Packham suddenly appears. He's excited. *

DS PACKHAM *
We've got it! We've found the file *
with the video.

They look at him.

JUMP CUT TO:

66 OMITTED 66

66A INT. POLICE STATION, INCIDENT ROOM - DAY 5 66A

On screen: On a country road, from a police car, a uniformed officer emerges. The images are from a go-pro camera belonging to a cyclist who is not in shot.

MARCUS (O.S.)
Why have you stopped me?

JUSTIN
I believe you are riding in a
careless and inconsiderate manner
contrary to the Road Traffic Act of
1988.

MARCUS (O.S.)
No you just want to harass me. I
was riding perfectly normally.

JUSTIN
You were sending texts.

MARCUS (O.S.)
I had pulled over and I was
checking my heart rate on my phone.

JUSTIN
You were not fully stopped and you
should be looking at the road ahead
and aware of potential hazards.
(beat)
You wouldn't want to cause another
fatal accident would you

MARCUS (O.S.)
I haven't caused any fatal
accidents and you're on camera by
the way, officer.

JUSTIN

*Good then there's record of my
concern for your welfare as well as
other road-users.*

(beat)

*I'd hate for a car to just smash
into you one day. Leave you slowly
dying by the side of the road.*

DI Southgate clicks the space bar to stop the playback. A
stunned silence. *

Leila and Southgate look at each other.

Then back at Justin on the screen. *

67 OMITTED

67

68 INT. POLICE STATION, SOLICITOR'S ROOM - DAY 5

68

Justin in person. Sam comes in.

JUSTIN

Morning.

SAM

They've got new evidence they'll
certainly be using in the
magistrates to secure the
extension.

JUSTIN

What is it?

SAM

Video of the encounter with Marcus
where you literally threaten him
with what actually happened.

Beat.

SAM (CONT'D)

You have been identified by the
victim of a hit-and-run against
whom you have a history of
harassment. Your vehicle has
conveniently disappeared.

JUSTIN

I'm not denying we're the underdogs
that's why I turned to you.

SAM

And that's all before the forensics
come back on the pedal they've
found at the scene.

Looks hard at Justin.

SAM (CONT'D)

So before we go to court, Justin.
Is there anything you want to tell
me?

(beat)

Is there anything I need to know?

And we hold on Justin staring back at him with no clue as to what the answer to this might be with the odds seemingly so stacked against him...

END OF EPISODE